

REMARKS

The Applicants thank the Examiner for the thorough consideration given the present application. Claims 5-11, 15, 18, 20, 23, and 35-38 were previously cancelled. Claims 1-4, 12-14, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24-34, and 39-41 are pending, of which dependent claims 40 and 41 are added. Claim 1 is independent.

Added dependent claims 40 and 41 set forth subject matter which is identical to that set forth in dependent claims 37 and 38 as originally filed.

(Claims 37 and 38 were withdrawn by the Examiner in the Office Action dated May 08, 2007, and thereafter, were voluntarily cancelled by the Applicants in the Amendment filed on August 08, 2007.)

Inasmuch as original dependent claims 37 and 38 were dependent from independent claim 1, which has been allowed, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner rejoin added dependent claims 40 and 41, so that this application grants as a U.S. Patent with claims 1-4, 12-14, 16, 17, 19, 21, 22, 24-34, and 39-41.

Examiner Interview

If, during further examination of the present application, a discussion with the Applicants' Representative would advance the prosecution of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Carl T. Thomsen, Registration No. 50,786, at 1-703-208-4030 (direct line) at his convenience.

Application No. 10/680,229
Reply date February 4, 2010

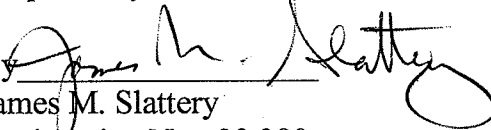
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CONCLUSION

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 or 1.17, particularly extension of time fees.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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